

FOR PEACE OF THE WORLD

CHURCH PETITIONS PRESENTED TO PRES. McKinley.

One From Protestant Churches of the Six Continents—One, Too, from the Presbyterian Alliance Which Also Represents Churches All Over World—Disarmament and Arbitration.

Washington, Dec. 29.—A delegation presented to the president to-day two petitions, one from the great majority of the organized Protestant Christian churches of the world and the other from the Pan-Protestant alliance. Both petitions had been placed in charge of the Rev. Dr. William Henry Roberts, the American secretary of the Pan-Protestant alliance, and with him were the Rev. Wallace Radcliffe and the Rev. A. W. Pitzer of Washington, D. C., Rev. W. W. Barr of Philadelphia and the Rev. J. B. Drury of New Brunswick, N. J. The petition was signed by the representatives of 145 national and denominational churches, existing on all the six continents, viz: The church of England, the church of Scotland, twenty-nine other churches in Great Britain and Ireland, the general of the Salvation Army, two churches in Belgium, two in Switzerland, six in Holland, twelve in Australia, twenty-eight in the United States and sixty-four in other parts of the world. Baptists, Congregationalists, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians and Episcopalians unite in the approval of the petition. It asks for the reduction of the heavy armaments maintained by Christian nations "ready upon provocation to go to war and settle their disputes by bloodshed," and also requests the influence of the government of the United States in favor of national arbitration as a substitute for war.

The second petition is from the Pan-Protestant alliance, which also united in the first petition and which includes eighty national and denominational churches throughout the world. This second petition asks for a "permanent and peaceful method for the settlement of all controversies arising between the peoples of the British empire and the republic of the United States of America." The delegation in presenting the petition emphasized the fact that both originated in the United States, the first for universal disarmament in the year 1890, with the general assembly of the Presbyterian church, south. The delegation also stated that they were not to be regarded as "the advocates of a policy of peace at any price" or with maintaining the opinion that all war is sinful. They quoted the Westminster confession to the effect that "civil magistrates may rightfully now, under the new testament, wage war upon just and necessary occasions."

The president was congratulated upon the result of the thoughtful war recently waged by the American people in the cause of justice and humanity, and the divine blessing was invoked upon him as the man ordained of God in a great crisis in human history to be the leader of these people, and also to be instrumental through both war and peace for the bringing of Christ's universal kingdom. The signers of these petitions represent more than 80,000,000 of Christians in all parts of the world, 25,000,000 of whom are Presbyterians. The president responded cordially to the delegation, saying that he favored arbitration between Great Britain and America. He also said that he had responded promptly to the czar's proposal for disarmament, but that under the present circumstances the armaments of the United States could not be lessened but would in any event be less than would satisfy European nations.

MAGNIFICENT MEMORIAL HALL.

Dedicated in Chicago to Veterans of the Civil War.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—A magnificent memorial hall in honor of the veterans of the civil war was dedicated to-day in the new public library on Michigan avenue. Over three thousand persons were present, including many of the state, county and city officials and judges of the supreme and superior courts. General John C. Black, commander of the department of Illinois, G. A. R., made the formal dedicatory address. Mayor Harrison of Chicago, Judge Kirk Hives and Colonel James B. Sexton, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., also spoke. Governor Tanner, on account of sickness, was unable to be present. The assembly rooms and hall were furnished at a cost of \$22,000, appropriated by the state.

NEW FOUNDLAND MAY NEGOTIATE.

It Joint High Commission Falls to Reach a Fishery Agreement.

St. John's, N. F., Dec. 29.—It is generally expected here that the failure of the joint high commission at Washington will result in the British government permitting this colony to negotiate a separate arrangement with the United States upon the basis of the Bond-Blaine convention, which allowed Newfoundland fish free entry into the American markets, American vessels receiving free bait and fishing privileges in Newfoundland waters.

The Keely Inventions.

Boston, Dec. 29.—Charles S. Hill, attorney for Mrs. John W. Keely, arrived to-day from Philadelphia with the various machines of the late John W. Keely, which are held to be of importance in connection with the experiments which are to be made by Y. B. Kinraide at his laboratory in Jamaica Plain, to test the possibilities of the machine.

NEW YORK BANK DEFRAUDER.

David Rothschild Arrested—Charged With Floating Worthless Paper.

New York, Dec. 29.—David Rothschild was arrested here to-day at the instance of the Central National bank. According to the complaint, Rothschild was the head of R. Rothschild & Sons, which formerly conducted a large clothing business in Cleveland, O. On May 12, 1897, Rothschild visited the Central National bank and offered for discount a note signed by his firm of \$5,000 payable September 12 of that year. He stated that the firm had liabilities of about \$50,000, but possessed assets of three times that sum. He also gave the bank as security about twenty promissory notes of customers in sums ranging from one hundred to three hundred dollars, which, the bank says, Rothschild claimed were secured by chattel mortgages. Their total was \$5,250. Among others were notes signed by Harry Golden, John Emick and W. L. Lel. When the \$5,000 note became due in September of last year, R. Rothschild & Sons' assigned. The Central bank, as fast as the notes given as security became due, sent them out for collection, but the banks at which the notes were payable reported that they could not find the drawer's name. Emick was finally located in the Chicago yards, where he was a driver. He stated that he had worked for R. Rothschild & Sons' concern and that David Rothschild had got him to sign his name to about twenty notes. Just what they were he did not care, as having no means no one could make him pay them. Emick also stated that Golden, Lel and Cook made about the same number of notes as he did. Later, the Central National bank located Lel, who corroborated the statement made by Emick. Other men employed by the firm made similar admissions.

INTER-COLLEGE CHESS.

Harvard Has a Double Victory—Yale Still Last.

New York, Dec. 29.—The students of Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton played the fourth round of the inter-collegiate chess tournament here this afternoon. The order of play and the openings adopted were as follows: First table, E. E. Southard of Harvard vs. R. Lopez; second table, E. C. Aronsberg of Harvard vs. A. S. Meyer of Columbia; third table, A. S. Weston of Princeton vs. L. A. Cook of Yale; fourth table, J. A. Ely of Princeton vs. A. M. Webb of Yale, queen's gambit declined. The details of the playing were:

Southard tried a Ruy Lopez against Falk on the first board. The latter got into difficulties shortly after the opening move was made and lost the game after 27 moves. Meyer, who defended against Aronsberg, on the second board, also opened with a Ruy Lopez, committed himself in the early part of the game and lost in consequence thereof after 26 moves. Cook, who had played a Petroff against Weston on the third board, succeeded in adding a piece in the middle of the game, but leaving his queen on prize on his 22nd move. He had to resign four moves later. On the last board Ely, who had played a tame queen's gambit, made a fatal error at the 34th move, and lost the game after 45 moves. The Harvard men, by virtue of their double victory to-day, again took the lead over Columbia men, who in turn were in front of the Princetonians; Yale was last. The record of the tournament stands: Harvard, 6½ won, 1½ lost; Columbia, 4½ won, 3½ lost; Princeton 3 won, 5 lost; Yale, 2 won, 6 lost.

NEW SENATOR FROM VERMONT.

Will be Appointed by Governor to Succeed Late Senator Morrill.

Montpelier, Vt., Dec. 29.—The successor of the late Senator Morrill will undoubtedly be appointed by the governor of Vermont, and may be Edward C. Smith of St. Albans. If the vacancy had occurred during the recent session of the legislature that body would proceed in joint assembly to elect a senator. The vacancy occurring during a recess of the legislature the power of appointment rests with the governor. Among the names most frequently mentioned are ex-Governor William P. Dillingham of Waterbury, ex-Governor C. S. Page of Hyde Park, Hon. C. S. Prouty of Newport, Judge Henry C. Ide of St. Johnsbury and Congressman W. W. Grout. The senator by an unwritten law will be chosen from the east side, it being the unbroken custom to have a senator from each side of the mountain chain that divides the state. All the above mentioned candidates are from the east side.

A POLISH BISHOP IN TROUBLE.

Charges of Forgery Made—Illegal Addition to Promissory Note.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 29.—Charges of forgery have been made to District Attorney Kensfield against Rev. Stephen Keminski, bishop of the Independent Polish Catholic church. Some time ago Peter Smokowski, secretary of Bishop Keminski, brought suit against Peter Gorski and four other Poles to recover \$34 alleged to have been loaned and for which a promissory note was given. In court to-day it developed that the following words had been added to the note: "That we the undersigned agree to be held personally responsible for the amount." Counsel for the defendants alleged that this clause had been added to the note by Bishop Keminski after it was made and signed. The district attorney said he would present the charge to the grand jury.

President Burt Discredits Statement.

Omaha, Dec. 29.—When President Burt of the Union Pacific was asked by a representative of the Associated Press if he could confirm the reported purchase of the Chicago and Alton road by his company he replied that he had no information on the subject and discredited the statement.

CUBANS WILL NOT CELEBRATE

GEN. BROOKE FORBIDS ANY PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION.

His Determination to Protect Spaniards Communicated to Cubans—They Had Prepared a Six Days' Programme of Festivities With Music and Fireworks Every Night.

Havana, Dec. 29.—The firm determination of General Brooke to prevent outrages upon the returning or remaining Spaniards and to stop the sacking of Spanish stores at all hazards has been communicated to the prominent Cubans in Havana. Last night a meeting of the patriotic committees was held and this morning a delegation consisting of Dr. Juan F. O'Farri, Frederico Mora, Angel Kohley, Emilio Hunez and Alfredo Zayas, waited upon General Ludlow to ask whether no portion of the programme might be carried out. Senor Nunez handed General Ludlow a written copy of a programme of six days' festivities. It provided for the following: On the first day a general ringing of bells; on the second, a parade of Cuban soldiers followed by a dinner; on the third a civic procession; on the fourth public assemblies and speeches; on the fifth, a carnival; and on the sixth, races between the American men-of-war boats. The programme called for fireworks and music every night.

Senor Kohley argued that General Ludlow need not fear disorders. He said that the people, who had long been oppressed, merely wished an opportunity for public rejoicing and the Americans were going to demonstrate the Cubans wished to participate. If part of their programme were carried out the population could not assume that there was any disagreement between the Cubans and Americans; if none of it was carried out the populace might draw erroneous conclusions.

General Ludlow, who was very polite, promised to give the matter careful consideration. After the delegation had withdrawn he conferred with General Brooke and it was decided that it would be wiser not to allow any public manifestations on the part of the Cubans. General Ludlow prepared a written reply, pointing out the extreme need of maintaining order in the interests of the people of Cuba, but the sympathy of the Americans was with the desire of the Cubans to celebrate. He urged, however, that there was the danger of giving an opportunity to ill-disposed or thoughtless persons to make trouble, which would harm the city's interests. On all these grounds, concluded General Ludlow, it was expedient that there should be no general public display of feeling.

POPE TO CARDINAL GIBBONS.

The Pontifical Document on Religious Matters in America.

Rome, Dec. 29.—It is asserted here that a pontifical document concerning religious matters in America has been dispatched to Cardinal Gibbons and will be published in Europe as soon as it reaches him. Although dealing principally with local customs and modes of action in conformity with the religious liberty accorded in the United States the document, it is understood, warns Catholics against the danger of certain unorthodox regulations touching matters of conscience, such as were advanced by certain commentators upon "The Life of Father Hecker" and the dangers of doctrines like that of human evolution upheld by Dr. Zahn.

London, Dec. 29.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says: The pontifical letter fully approves doctrines professed by Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Ireland. While maintaining a certain reserve regarding some questions in dispute, the letter may be regarded as very favorable to Americanism and will probably attract much attention in both the United States and England.

THE POISONING OF MRS. ADAMS.

Police Say It Is Still a Mystery—Cornish Not Arrested.

New York, Dec. 29.—The Adams-Cornish poisoning case remains as great a mystery as ever. When the detective bureau, the district attorney's office, the coroner's office and others seeking to find a solution of the strange case ended their labors for the day all said that nothing had been learned that might assist in bringing the guilty persons to justice. The police are inclined to believe that the person who sent the poison to Cornish is a woman, although the evidence is of the most flimsy character and is largely based upon opinions of more or less responsible parties. Mr. Cornish, who was also poisoned at the time of Mrs. Adams' death, is now completely out of danger, though confined to bed at the Knickerbocker Athletic club.

Captain McCloskey denied that he had placed or contemplated placing Mr. Cornish under arrest or surveillance. He sent word to the Knickerbocker Athletic club, however, asking if Cornish was able to come to headquarters. Dr. Coffin, who is attending Mr. Cornish, replied that his patient would not be able to leave his bed for two days. He said he was undoubtedly out of danger, but he did not want him to take any chances. Dr. Coffin got an interesting statement of how Cornish escaped death, while Mrs. Adams, drinking from the same glass, was killed by the deadly poison. "Cornish mixed the poison," said Dr. Coffin, "and gave it to Mrs. Adams. She drank but a little, complaining that it was bitter. Cornish then took the balance and drained the glass to the dregs. I think the reason Cornish was not killed is that he drank

the dregs, while Mrs. Adams took the poison in solution. The quantity of powdered matter acted as an emetic and cleared his stomach."

When they found he was unable to come to them, Captain McCloskey and Mr. McIntyre, accompanied by a stenographer, went to the Knickerbocker Athletic club and were in conference with Cornish for more than an hour. Captain McCloskey said that little had been learned that had not already been published. He stated that Cornish told him that the silver holder had evidently been used, and while it was marked "sterling," it was plated. It was not a Tiffany article, but came in a Tiffany box and had a Tiffany card in the package. That the contents of the bottle were cyanide of potassium is generally believed by physicians and police alike, but only a chemical analysis will determine this to a certainty.

COUNCILMEN EXCITED.

Special Meeting to Consider Firemen's Petition Breaks Up in Disorder.

The special meeting of the board of councilmen last evening, called to take action regarding the petition of the firemen, broke up in disorder, with nothing accomplished. The three-quarters of an hour of the session was occupied in sharp and acrimonious discussion of points of parliamentary law and provisions of the charter. The petition of the firemen, which, as will be remembered, was before the board at its last meeting for concurrence with the aldermen, was referred back to the legislative committee, the president of the board holding that the petition was not properly before the board, the committee having considered it while the board of councilmen were in session, contrary to the provisions of the charter.

As soon as the matter was brought before the board last evening the point was raised that the matter was not properly before the board, inasmuch as Mr. Farren of the Fourteenth ward, a member of the committee, had voted to recommend it and that members of the outlying wards had no vote on such questions, according to the charter. Mr. Farren confessed to having voted to recommend concurrence with the aldermen and President Anderson ruled that the petition was not properly before the board, the councilman from the Fourteenth ward having no vote on such matters. On this pandemonium broke loose. Half a dozen sought to speak at once with indifferent effect and the legal phases of the question were discussed in a heated manner. President Anderson asked that time be taken to consult the corporation counsel as to whether the member from the Fourteenth ward had a right to vote in committee, but those anxious for immediate concurrence with the aldermen spurned the idea. A motion to adjourn was lost by a large majority. President Anderson called Councilman Hall to take the chair. Councilman Minix moved to concur with the aldermen. President Anderson from the floor moved to amend by referring the matter to the corporation counsel for his opinion. Acting President Hall ruled that all motions relative to the petition were out of order, giving as his reason that President Anderson had previously ruled that the matter was not properly before the board.

Councilman Slade doubted the ruling of the chair and made an appeal to the house. Then the point was raised that there was no quorum. The roll call showed that there were twenty-two present, two short of a quorum. Acting President Hall declared that there was no quorum and that by virtue of that fact the members present were suspended. Several of the members protested that there were members enough in the lobby to make a quorum, but to no purpose. Then it was proposed by some that they get together and organize the chamber by themselves, but this project was abandoned. Councilman Slade instead went to the mayor, who was in executive session with the board of finance, and secured a promise from him that if a majority of the councilmen would sign a petition to that effect he would call another extra meeting of the board to-night. A petition was at once drawn and twenty signatures were obtained in a short time, so that there is no doubt but that there will be another meeting called either for to-night or to-morrow night.

EX-CASHIER WARNER GUILTY.

Verdict of the Jury in the Northampton Bank's Case.

Northampton, Mass., Dec. 29.—Lewis Warner was found guilty of embezzlement this evening, the jury coming in at 6:35. In his charge to the jury this afternoon Justice Fessenden instructed them to bring in a verdict of not guilty on the first, second, fifth, sixth and eighth counts of the indictment, owing to legal technicalities. Warner was brought into court to hear the verdict and was in the same apathetic condition which he has been throughout the trial. The court room was crowded when the verdict was given. Warner's attorneys took many exceptions throughout the trial and a new trial will doubtless be asked for. Warner embezzled funds of the Hampshire Savings bank, of which he was cashier.

To Recruit 500 Men.

Cleveland, Dec. 29.—A telegram has been received at the United States recruiting office here from Washington ordering the recruiting of 500 men for the Twelfth United States Infantry now at Jefferson barracks, Mo. The regiment will soon start for Manila.

Destructive Fire in Oberlin, O.

Oberlin, O., Dec. 29.—Eight business houses were destroyed and six stores damaged by a fire which started at 3 a. m. in De Francis' millinery establishment. Loss \$50,000. Insurance not known.

THE GOVERNMENT OF HAWAII

CONFLICTING REPORTS WILL CAUSE SHARP CONTEST IN HOUSE.

The Committee on Territories Will Present Majority and Minority Reports—A Difference Also Between the Majority Report and That of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Washington, Dec. 29.—A sharp contest will occur in the house over the legislation for the government of Hawaii, as the majority and minority of the committee on territories do not agree as to the form of a bill. Neither do the majority agree with the report of the senate committee on foreign relations, although the differences are not such as to cause great difficulty. The majority report of the house committee changes the bill introduced by Mr. Hitt only slightly, with the exception of the qualifications for senators and representatives. The property qualifications are stricken out, and any citizen who is a voter and has been a resident of Hawaii for three years is eligible. Those who were citizens of Hawaii on August 12, 1898, are made citizens of the United States. The delegates to congress shall possess the same qualifications as a voter. Bonds issued on the credit of the public domain shall be payable in not less than five nor more than fifteen years. One year's residence must be proved to obtain a divorce.

The minority report was prepared by H. B. Ferguson, delegate from New Mexico, who is a member of the subcommittee. Mr. Henry of Texas has also a minority memorandum, but is now absent. The report says that the minority is unable to agree to some features of the bill as approved by the majority of that subcommittee, and it continues: "It is important to emphasize the fact that new territory as acquired should be governed as other territories of the United States have been from the foundation of the government, with the view of ultimate admission to statehood. Upon this theory we believe that Hawaii should be given substantially the same form of government as has been given in other territories of the United States, and the importance of this view is increased rather than diminished by the imminent Philippine question. New territory which we feel is unfitted, either from the character of its population or because of its distance from our shores, for statehood in the Union ought to be left alone entirely."

"We therefore object to the provision of the bill making the supreme court of the territory of Hawaii judge of the membership of the house of the territorial legislature of Hawaii. We believe that each house should be the final judge of the qualification of its members. The innovation not only fails to preserve the constitutional independence of the three great branches of government, executive, legislative and judicial, but tends to degrade the court to the level of political squabbles and partisan brawls. It tends also to increase the already dangerous power of the courts in our system of government."

"We also object to the property qualification for members of the senate of the territory of Hawaii. This qualification also extends to the voters for members of that branch of the legislature. This is an innovation recognizing by law the right of wealth to govern, and is certainly a dangerous tendency in a republic already threatened by the too great power of wealth. A residence of three years in Hawaii is also necessary for one to become a qualified voter. As our desire is, or should be, to Americanize these islands, we think a residence of even less than one year would be preferable."

"We think also that too great power is given to the governor; especially we object to his being empowered to nominate part of the judiciary of that island. We believe that all the judges, as in other territories of the United States, should be appointed by the president, and from the bona fide resident bar of the territory, for a term of four years. If life judges are to be appointed at all, they should be appointed by the president." There are other minor differences, but the above are the principal ones. The minority make no objection to the educational qualifications for citizenship, as they believe this to have worked well in the south.

MARLBORO SHOE MAKERS' STRIKE

Dissatisfaction Over Failure of Police to Preserve Order.

Marlboro, Mass., Dec. 29.—As the upshot of dissatisfaction among business men over the failure of the local police to preserve order during the shoe strike Mayor Holt held a conference with prominent men to-day resulting in a notice being given that order would be preserved hereafter. It is anticipated that the state police will be ordered here. A crowd of strikers, including many women, to-day went to a house where two non-union men lived and threatened to burn it. The threat fell flat as the non-union men yesterday, out of fear, gave up their positions.

Wanted for Burglary.

John G. Brown, who was arrested for desertion in this city, will be taken to Naugatuck to-morrow, where he is wanted to answer to the charge of burglary at the residence of Lizzie O'Rourke, where he stole a watch, which was found upon him when arrested.

Board Can Make Transfers.

At the meeting of the board of finance last evening the corporation counsel was instructed to inform the board of education that it could make transfers from special to general funds.

AFRO-AMERICAN COUNCIL.

Bishop Walters Says South Cannot Conceal Its Barbarity Toward Negro.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The first annual meeting of the Afro-American council opened here to-day. Winthrop Alexander Walters of New Jersey, presided. The council grew out of the meeting of prominent colored men at Rochester September 15 and was called in the interest of the amelioration of the condition of the Afro-American race. Bishop Walters delivered a lengthy address in which he reviewed the condition of the negroes from the time of the revolution down to to-day. The south, he said, must treat the negro as it would have the negro treat the south. The south could no longer conceal its barbarity towards the negro. Bishop Walters could not understand the motives of those members of the race who counsel inaction. With the president silent in his message upon the riots at Wilmington the time had come for the colored man to act—to act with firmness, calmness and after due deliberation. Every reference to the need of reforms in the south brought forth thunders of applause and expressions of approval.

POLO.

New Britain Defeats New Haven by a Narrow Margin.

New Britain, Dec. 29.—An admirer of Doherty presented him with a bantam rooster as he appeared on the floor to-night and for the entire game he played as if game birds had been his diet for weeks. His work in front of Burgess was brilliant and saved New Britain's goal tender many stops. New Britain won the game by a narrow margin, although New Haven's second goal was an exceptionally lucky one, and it was the general impression that one of the New Britain players kicked it into his own cage. Referee Long was compelled to stop the game six times to reprimand Lattons, who persisted in rolling up the netting so that the ball would roll out. The summary: Score: New Britain 3, New Haven 2. Rushes, Russell 4, Ross 3, Stops, Burgess 40, Lattons 43, Foulds, Doherty, Russell, Referee, Long, Timer, O'Neill. Attendance, 800.

BANK DIRECTORS IN JAIL.

Entire Board of Moran, Kan., Institute Confined for a Week.

Fort Scott, Kan., Dec. 29.—The entire board of directors of the Moran, Kan., bank, which failed last January, according to papers filed in the appellate court here to-day, have been in the Allen county jail for nearly a week, charged by depositors with having violated the new banking law of 1897, making specifications for the government of banks in Kansas. The defendants are Joshua Rumble, who at the time the bank failed was regarded as being very wealthy; W. A. Ross, J. N. Ross, William Parks and Cashier E. A. Brown. They appeared before Judge Carnot to-day and presented a petition for release on a writ of habeas corpus. Judge Schoonover issued an order releasing them on bonds until March 14 next, when their cases will be heard here. The defendants attack the constitutionality of the new law and raise some technical points concerning the information.

CHRISTENED WITH PINKS.

Five Master Nathaniel Palmer—Will Spread 10,000 Yards of Canvas.

Bath, Me., Dec. 29.—The large five-masted schooner Nathaniel Palmer was launched at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon. The schooner was built by Daniel P. Palmer and has already been rigged and is ready for sea. The vessel was christened with pinks by Miss Anna Palmer niece of the builder. The Nathaniel Palmer is the first five-masted schooner built in Bath and is one of the largest afloat. The official measurements are: Length, 205.1; breadth, 44.4; depth, 22.2; gross tonnage, 2,440; net tonnage, 2,244.58. The vessel is the sixth built by Mr. Palmer bearing the name of his family. They are the Augustus, Mary E., Sarah E., Frank A., and William D. Palmer. The latest addition to the fleet will spread over ten thousand yards of canvas. Her commander is Captain J. C. Harding of Chatham, Mass.

A UNIQUE ADMIRALTY CASE.

Crew Betrays Sult to Recover Money Found on Body at Sea.

Boston, Dec. 29.—A unique admiralty case was heard in the United States district court to-day, namely, a libel brought for salvage for the saving of United States and French money of the value of \$1,050 found by Gloucester fishermen on what the law terms a derelict at sea. The derelict in the case was the dead body of a man, believed to have been a victim of La Bourgoigne disaster of last July. The body was identified, however. The libel was brought by the owners of the fishing schooner W. H. Cross in behalf of themselves, her master and crew of fourteen men against the property found. The body was buried at sea and all efforts to find the derelict have failed. After hearing the case Judge Lowell took the matter under advisement.

Waterbury Physician Arrested.

Waterbury, Dec. 29.—Dr. James T. Tonks, a well known physician of this city, is in the toils of a law charged with malpractice. This afternoon prosecuting Attorney Durant received a telephone message from State Attorney Williams to the effect that at the request of Coroner Mix James T. Tonk, M. D., was wanted for malpractice performed upon Emma Squires, a young woman residing at Southbury, November 1.

BENJAMIN R. WILLIS HANGED

YOUNG MAN WHO MURDERED HIS OLD SCHOOLMASTER.

His Perfect Coolness Enabled the Officials to Make a Good Job of the Hanging—Only Seventeen Seconds to do the Work—Life Extinct Eight Minutes After Drop Fell.

Wethersfield, Conn., Dec. 30.—Benjamin R. Willis, aged twenty-three, was hanged at the state prison this morning. The automatic gallows worked perfectly. Willis is the seventh man to be hanged in this way. The drop fell at 12:20, and eight minutes later the attending physicians pronounced life extinct. Willis weighed 170 pounds, and the force of the blow was equal to 1,235 pounds. According to the court's decree Willis was to be hanged December 30 between midnight and sunrise, and exactly at 12:01 Warden Woodbridge, Deputy Warden Baisden, Prison Directors Wells and Burr, Chaplain Hall, Dr. Thayer, the prison physician, and Dr. J. E. Root of Hartford were at the death cage, and Warden Woodbridge read the death warrant. In the early part of his last night on earth Willis was in a highly nervous state, but when he stepped into the last few hours with him, succeeded in calming him. After the warrant had been read the party returned to the warden's office, when a second procession was formed, the first division consisting of those who had attended the reading of the warrant, while behind them were Assistant Deputy Perkins, Officer Edgett and nine reporters.

The first party passed into the cage while the other section of the procession filed directly into the execution room. After the warden had made the prisoner good-bye Deputy Baisden and Officer Edgett strapped his wrists and elbows. As soon as Willis stepped upon the plate Deputy Baisden adjusted the cap, Officer Edgett adjusted the straps, the doctors attended to the proper arrangement of the noose, while Assistant Deputy Perkins grasped him firmly by the shoulders to prevent him from falling, though he needed no assistance from any nervous collapse. As soon as Willis stepped upon the plate the dial hand began to revolve and it had marked but seventeen seconds when the warden pressed the lever and the body shot into the air, breaking the neck and causing almost instant death. Eight minutes later life was pronounced extinct. The time of seventeen seconds from the time the doomsday man stepped from the plate to the time the drop fell was the fastest that has been made since the introduction of the automatic gallows and was owing to Willis' coolness, so that he did not hamper the officers in the slightest degree in their preliminary work.

Willis was not informed until Wednesday of the time of his execution, and when the fact was told him he showed no more emotion than usual. During his confinement in prison he gained fifteen pounds. He preserved his stolid demeanor throughout the entire day yesterday but last night he was somewhat nervous for a time. A telegram was given to him after supper which came from his mother, and that added somewhat to his nervousness. The contents of the message Warden Woodbridge did not think it was proper to disclose, but he said it was a kind motherly message and one that left its visible impress on the young man. Mrs. Willis had been in Hartford until about four weeks ago, availing herself of every opportunity to see her son, but finally she could not withstand the strain and is now critically ill in a New York hospital. She has grieved so much over her son's wrong doing that it is thought she will die of a broken heart. Willis murdered David S. R. Lambert of Wilton, his former teacher, December 27, 1898, after having robbed his house. Though he was the youngest person ever executed in the prison the brutality of his crime was so abhorrent that little sympathy was felt for him. In speaking of him Warden Woodbridge always referred to him as a moral degenerate.

BENEFIT ASSOCIATION ASSIGNS.

The Keystone Mutual—Has Eleven Hundred Policy Holders.

Allentown, Pa., Dec. 29.—The Keystone Mutual Benefit association incorporated in 1878, made an assignment to-day. The action was due to the recent losses of members, and large accumulation of the death loss. The association had 1,100 policy holders, only 600 of whom accepted its proposition December 9 last to consolidate with the Life Assurance company of America of Indianapolis. No statement of assets and liabilities is available.

200 SAW HIM COMMIT SUICIDE.

Man Kills Himself in the Union Station at Boston.

Boston, Dec. 29.—Over two hundred persons saw Herbert E. Dickinson of Greenfield commit suicide by shooting this afternoon in the Union station, and it was a miracle that no one was hit by two of the bullets which went wide of the mark. The third bullet, however, lodged in the unfortunate man's brain, and he died three hours later in the Massachusetts General hospital.

Alderman Harhen Arrested.

Alderman James Harhen was arrested by Patrolman Healey last evening, charged with selling liquor to Martin O'Toole, a minor, last Friday. Harhen has been fined \$80 and costs for Sunday liquor selling within the last six months.

Arrested for Theft.

Willis Cole was arrested last night for the theft of an overcoat by Patrolman Gilligan.